

Page 1, before the first paragraph, insert as a centered heading

A1. **--FIELD OF THE INVENTION--**,

after line 5, insert as a centered heading

A2 **--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION --**,

Page 3, before the first full paragraph insert as a centered heading:

A3 **--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--**,

Page 6, on line 10 insert as a centered heading:

A4 **--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--**,

on line 29 insert:

A5 **--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--**.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend Claims 1-13 as set forth hereinbelow:

Sub B1  
16  
1. (Once Amended) A low-pressure gas discharge lamp which includes a discharge vessel and at least two spatially separated capacitive coupling-in structures and operates at an operating frequency  $f$ , wherein each capacitive coupling-in structure is formed by at least one dielectric having a thickness  $d$  and a dielectric constant  $\epsilon$ , each dielectric being subject to the condition  $d/(f\epsilon) < 10^{-8}$  cm.

2. (Once Amended) A low-pressure gas discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one dielectric is subject to the condition  $d/(f\epsilon) > 10^{-9}$  cm.

3. (Once Amended) A low-pressure gas discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein the operating frequency  $f$  is in the range of from 150 Hz to 1 MHz.

4. (Once Amended) A low-pressure gas discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dielectric constant of the dielectric has an essentially negative temperature dependency.
5. (Once Amended) A low-pressure gas discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein the discharge vessel is shaped essentially as a hollow cylinder having an inside diameter  $d_i$  which is smaller than 10 mm.
6. (Once Amended) A low-pressure gas discharge lamp as claimed in claim 5, wherein the capacitive coupling-in structure is shaped essentially as a hollow cylinder, has an inside diameter  $d_i$  and is connected to the discharge vessel in a compression proof manner.
7. (Once Amended) A low-pressure gas discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein the discharge vessel is filled with a filling gas containing at least one inert gas.
8. (Once Amended) A low-pressure gas discharge lamp as claimed in claim 7, wherein the filling gas contains mercury.
9. (Once Amended) A low-pressure gas discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein the operating frequency  $f$  is less than 150 kHz.
10. (Once Amended) A low-pressure gas discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein the discharge current of the gas discharge is more than 10 mA.
11. (Once Amended) A low-pressure gas discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dielectric consists of a paraelectric, ferroelectric or anti-ferroelectric solid material.

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